

Authority Meeting Highlights
a brief recap of the September 18, 2024, ITA/CAC Joint Meeting

Wednesday night, the Authority:

- Hosted a hybrid Joint Meeting of the Authority and the Community Advisory Committee.
- Authorized the General Manager to execute a contract amendment with Gordon Thomas Honeywell Governmental Relations to renew the contract for Federal Advocacy Services for a period of one year in the amount of \$96,000. *(Noelle Gordon)*
- Authorized the General Manager to execute a one-year contract extension with Foster Government Relations to provide State Legislative Advocacy Services in the amount of \$48,000. *(Noelle Gordon)*

Other Items of Interest:

- David Chaffee introduced **Matthew Desy, Vehicle Detailer.**
- CAC, ITA and staff recognized and celebrated the achievements of the **2024 State Rodeo Participants.**
- Amanda Collins provided an update on the CAC Stipend Program Procedures.
- Bergkamp reviewed the 2024 CAC Self-Assessment.
- Bergkamp provided a 2025-2030 Strategic Plan Concept review.

General Manager's Report:

Bergkamp presented an Intercity Transit community update to the Yelm Chamber of Commerce on September 10. There was a group of about 25 business owners from the community of Yelm. She shared information on progress IT has made to be back to 102% pre-pandemic service levels, and our plans for 2025 of increasing the accessibility to and enhancement of our service in line with the promises from Proposition 1, including better express-like service to Yelm once the bypass is complete.

Intercity Transit's Grant Program Manager Jessica Gould submitted an application for WSDOT's Green Transportation Grant program for the purchase of 2 BEB's replacement vehicles with 2 chargers. She also submitted an application for 5 propane DAL and 2 Battery Electric DAL replacement vehicles.

Jessica wanted to thank everyone who made these applications possible:

- Associate Planner Claire Daniels provided multiple maps and GIS skills to help strengthen our applications.
- Planning Deputy Director Rob Lafontaine provided service level estimates for the DAL project.

- Fleet & Facilities Maintenance Director Jonathon Yee provided reliable content, cost estimates, and milestones along with collaboration on approach and strategy. The thoughtful edits and extra set of eyes was invaluable.

And thanks particularly to Thera Black for taking everything provided and forming the content into a solid ask with an excellent chance at being funded.

Bergkamp said we can expect to hear back on this application in May - June 2025. If awarded, the project can officially start 7/1/2025 and will help fund IT's first Battery Electric Coaches and DAL vehicles!

Bergkamp presented Intercity Transit's Severe Winter Weather operations at DES's yearly preparedness meeting on September 17, which is a great way to touch base with local jurisdictions on their preparations and sharing of information.

Bergkamp invites CAC and ITA members to the Avanti Bikes! Open House on September 25, 5-7 p.m. at Avanti High School. Over the last few years Walk N Roll Program Representative A Puri has been working hard developing this amazing partnership with Avanti. A and Avanti PE teacher Nikki, co-teach a PE class where youth learn and practice essential bicycle handling and safety skills. They also learn bike mechanic skills in the school's bike shop that Walk N Roll helped them create through sharing expertise and resources. Walk N Roll gives student participants a refurbished bike, helmet and lock. This program prepares students to ride their bike safely, independently and confidently for transportation. It has been so successful that A is now adjusting some of their time to focus on creating a new similar program at Envision Academy, the alternative high school in North Thruston.

*Prepared September 19, 2024
Pat Messmer/Clerk of the Board*